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ABSTRACT

Emphasizing recent recognition of the Nebraska Indian Commission's role as a State level voice capable of articulating Nebraska American Indian priority needs via appropriate legislation and/or proper agency communication, this third report by the Nebraska Indian Commission (January-June 1973) focuses on individual reports relative to the Omaha Indian Reservation, Santee Sioux Reservation, and Winnebago Indian Reservation. Each reservation is discussed in terms of its: history; population; income; tribal programs; economic activities and potential; health; welfare; education; and transportation (statistics are provided when relevant). Additionally, this report presents the following: (1) A comprehensive Review of the American Indian in Nebraska (a 1971 study revealing: there are 14,451 Nebraska Indians located primarily on the three reservations; the greatest unmet needs are among Indians in the rural northern and western areas of the State; the priority needs of Indians are self-determination, employment, and education); (2) Commission Membership; (3) Record of Events; (4) Research Projects (Identified by objectives and results in the areas of: housing; education and training; welfare; medical-dental care; employment; economic development; and legal services). (JC)

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REPORT OF THE

NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
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RC 006173

Report

JANUARY---JUNE

1973

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

JANUARY through JUNE, 1973

ROBERT B. MACKEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

1973

LEONARD SPRINGER (Deceased)----------OMAHA TRIBE
EDWARD CLINE (Withdrew Tribe)----------OMAHA TRIBE
VICTOR ROBINSON (Withdrew Tribe)----------OMAHA TRIBE

LAWRENCE COOK (Alternate)----------OMAHA TRIBE
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LOUIS LAROSE (Alternate)----------WINNEBAGO TRIBE
NICKY SOLOMON (Alternate)----------WINNEBAGO TRIBE

DONALD LAPOINTE----------SANTEE-SIOUX TRIBE
WILLARD MACKEY, SR.----------SANTEE-SIOUX TRIBE
GORDON KITTO, SR.----------SANTEE-SIOUX TRIBE

OLIVER SAUNSACI (Lincoln Indian Center)----------OMAHA TRIBE

MARION PENISKA (Omaha Indian Center - A.E.C.,(I.C.I.A.)---PONCA TRIBE

PETER THOMAS (Omaha Indian Center) I.C.C.A. (Resigned)----OMAHA TRIBE

MARTHA GIBBS (Alternate)----------CHEROKEE

CARL JANIS-(AT LARGE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE UNORGANIZED
WESTERN NEBRASKA INDIANS) (Resigned)--------OGALALA-SIOUX

STEPHEN JANIS (Alternate)----------ROSEBUD SIOUX

HON. J. JAMES EXON
GOVERNOR

State of Nebraska

ROBERT B. MACKEY
DIRECTOR

Nebraska Indian Commission
Box 94666—State Capitol—Lincoln 68509
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June 29, 1973

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

STATE OF NEBRASKA
NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68509

THE HONORABLE J. JAMES EXON, GOVERNOR OF NEBRASKA

Dear Governor Exon:

The Nebraska Indian Commission takes pleasure in submitting this report covering a period from January 2 through June 29, 1973, in keeping with the requirements of the Legislative Bill 904 (b) COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS, 81-1217. Commission; functions. Article (4) Keep the Governor's office appraised of the situation in the Indian Community; 81-1219. Commission; meetings; quorum. The Commission shall meet at least monthly. The Commission shall make a report annually to the Legislature and the Governor as to the work and accomplishments of the Commission.

The Nebraska Indian Commission represents over 14,500 Indian people residing on the three established Federal Indian Reservations of the Omaha, Santee-Sioux and Winnebago Tribes in Northeast Nebraska, and those Indians who live in off-Reservation rural, urban, and metropolitan areas including those Indians who have come down from the South Dakota Reservations of the Rosebud and Ogalala-Sioux, who live in the Western part of Nebraska.

The Nebraska Indian Commission is a permanent State Agency when LB 904 became law on May 22, 1971. This gave the Indians of Nebraska opportunity to be involved with their own affairs and better understand their problems and needs which are sometimes unique and complex because of the relationship of the established Tribes and the Federal Government in regard to treaties involving Indian Land and Resources and services to Indians through Treaty agreement and responsibility. It has been a mistaken supposition that all Indians are alike and solutions were designed for all Indian problems, and these programs have failed because each Indian Tribe is different in culture, values and need. The Nebraska

Indian Commission has the capability to deal wit[illegible]hese situations and the record to date speaks for this success and [illegible]erstanding of Indian Affairs as it relates to the Nebraska Indians. The progress which we have realized to this time and place would not be possible were it not for the continuing assistance and sincere cooperation of your office, the 1972 Legislative body, all of the State Agencies, and Federal Offices, which has contributed heavily towards our goals of meeting the challenge of survival of our Indians from a stone age lifestyle to that of the computer world.

The Indians of Nebraska have long recognized the need for organization and to assert their voice to their Tribal, County, State, Regional, and National Governmental levels who have responsibility under law to assist Indian people in this State.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert B. Mackey

Robert B. Mackey, Executive Director
Nebraska Indian Commission

FORWARD

January 2 through June 29, 1973

NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION

The purpose of the Nebraska Indian Commission shall be to join representatives of all Indians in Nebraska to do all things which it may determine to enhance the cause of Indian rights and to develop solutions to problems common to all Nebraska Indians. The Indian Commission is the advocate for all Indians in Nebraska, identifying their needs and mobilizing existing resources or developing new ones for Medical-Dental Care, Housing, Welfare, Education and Training, Employment, Economic Development, and Legal Assistance. The Nebraska Indian Commission works with all related Tribal, County, State, and Federal Agencies, seeking programs, developing new programs, and to keep the Governor's Office fully appraised of the situation in the State Indian Community, and to inform and educate the public with the Indian problems as they exist.

It must be understood that the Indian's problem began over a hundred years ago at the coming of the white man who displaced the Indians, destroying his natural resources for survival and was forced upon federal Reservations where the Indian became a displaced society in his own land whereby his victors became wealthy and politically strong while the Indian's social economic status deteriorated. Were it not for this special dimension which all Indians possess in his relationship to nature, he would have become extinct.

The Nebraska Indian Commission has the responsibility to bring about a better understanding with those who do not comprehend the Nebraska Indians and their problems through public relations by talking to schools, teachers, colleges, universities, churches and other groups who in turn can reflect these efforts to understanding one another to share in those day to day survival resources.

During the last Legislative Session, LB-37 was passed which enabled the Commission membership to be expanded from 13 members to 15, which allowed two representatives in the Panhandle of Western Nebraska.

ABERDEEN AREA
TURTLE MT.
Belcourt
New Town
FT. BERTHOLD
Ft. Totten
FT. TOTTEN
NORTH DAKOTA
Bismarck
Ft. Yates
Wahpeton
STANDING ROCK
CHEYENNE RIVER
Eagle Butte
Aberdeen
SISSETON
SOUTH DAKOTA
Pierre
Rapid City
CROW CREEK
LOWER BRULE
Flandreau
Chamberlain
PINE RIDGE
Pine Ridge
ROSEBUD
Rosebud
YANKTON
Wagner
SANTEE
Winnebago
WINNEBAGO
OMAHA
NEBRASKA
Lincoln

I. INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY

A. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Comprehensive Review of the American Indian in Nebraska is to provide a timely and instructive overview of the current situation in Nebraska with respect to its American Indians. The Review was compiled and published by Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska, Inc., for the information and use of its member judicatories and particularly those "sponsoring" Service Project 08, the cooperative exploration of Indian Ministry:

The Nebraska Conference of the United Methodist Church
The Christian Church of Nebraska
The Synod of Nebraska, United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.
The Church of the Brethren
The Nebraska Diocese, Protestant Episcopal Church
The Lutheran Church in America, Nebraska Synod
Church Women United

B. AUTHORIZATION. This study was authorized by the Board of Directors, June 15, 1971, in response to an initiative from the Nebraska Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Board directed the preparation of a Comprehensive Review for submission as a reference document to representatives of the participating church groups as they explore the possibilities of cooperative ministry in this area.

C. SCOPE. Three basic categories of information were sought for this Review: 1) The number, location and size of major Indian population concentrations (Areas) in the state; 2) the general and specific needs existing among Indians and the relative importance of each and the degree those needs are met in each area; 3) the nature and extent of services presently available to Nebraska Indians vis-a-vis the needs and the source of those services.

D. SOURCES: Information was obtained from three basic sources: 1)Published reports from related governmental agencies, such as, the Office of Economic Opportunity and the Bureau of Indian Affairs; 2) extended interviews with the Nebraska Indian Commissioner; 3) Two field trips, one to Sioux City, Omaha, Winnebago and Macy, July 29-30, and another to Scottsbluff, Alliance, Gordon, Chadron and Crawford, August 19 and 20, Robert Mackey, of the Indian Commission, traveled with staff on the latter trip.

E. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.

1. The Indian population of the state is 14,451 and is generally located in three Reservations, Winnebago and Omaha Reservations in Thurston County and the Santee-Sioux Reservation in Knox County; in six Urban Centers: Omaha, Lincoln, Scottsbluff-Gering, Norfolk, South Sioux City, and Falls City-Rulo; and in the Panhandle.

2. The greatest unmet needs involving the largest number of Indians exists in the non-urbanized areas of northern and western Nebraska; the Santee-Sioux Reservation (Knox County) and the Panhandle (Dawes, Box Butte, Sheridan and Sioux Counties).

3. The priority needs defined by Indians and leaders in these areas are: Self-determination (organization), Employment and Education.

Source: Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska, Inc.

II. POPULATION

A. OFF RESERVATION INDIAN POPULATION IN NEBRASKA - 1971

	Area	Tribe	Resident	Migrant
1.	Omaha	Omaha, Winnebago, various Sioux	1,194	2,500
2.	Lincoln	Omaha, Winnebago, various Sioux	600	200
3.	Panhandle	Various Sioux	1,334	1,300
4.	Scottsbluff-Gering	Various Sioux	357	300
5.	South Sioux City	Winnebago, Sioux, Omaha Ponca	200	
6.	Norfolk, etal	Ponca, Santee, Winnebago, Omaha	500	
7.	Falls City-Rulo	Iowa-Sac-Fox	110	
8.	Others		1,000	
		OFF RESERVATION TOTALS	5,195	4,400

(Source: CAP 5 Forms, OEO units)

B. PANHANDLE INDIAN POPULATION IN NEBRASKA - 1971

County		Resident	Migrant
DAWES:		275	300
Chadron	135-175		
Crawford	35-65		
BOX BUTTE:		512	400
Alliance	275-300		
SHERIDAN:		583	600
Gordon	310-350		
Rushville	45		
SIOUX:		12	
Panhandle Totals	755-945	1,382	1,300

(Source: N.W. Nebr CAP - CAP 5 Form; local officials)

C. RESERVATION INDIAN POPULATION IN NEBRASKA - 1971

Reservation	Registered	Resident
1. Winnebago	1,928	877
2. Omaha	1,101*	1,101
3. Santee-Sioux	2,096	244
	5,125 Total	2,222 Total

(Source: Bureau of Indian Affairs)

* No Current Figures Available

D. SUMMARY - 1971 NEBRASKA INDIAN POPULATION

Area	Resident	Migrant
Off-Reservations		
Urban	5,195	4,400
Panhandle	1,334	1,300
Reservation	2,222	
SUBTOTALS	8,751	5,700
RESIDENT & MIGRANT TOTAL	14,451	

E. POPULATION NOTE:

There is considerable fluctuation of Indian population due to influx for seasonal employment in the panhandle and to migration to and from reservations. The Nebraska figures are also influenced by the in-migration, periodically, from Rosebud and Pine Ridge Sioux from South Dakota. In almost every case, local Indian leaders felt the CAP agency figures were minimal.

May 1971

OMAHA INDIAN RESERVATION

Macy, Nebraska

HISTORY

The first attempt made to provide a reservation for the Omaha Indians was by Treaty of July 15, 1830 (7 Stat. 328). The United States was released from provisions of this treaty, however, by the Treaty of October 15, 1836 (7 Stat. 524). A brief description of ensuing treaties, laws, and executive orders applicable to the Omaha Tribe and reservation follows:

Treaty of March 16, 1854 (10 Stat. 1043) with the Omaha Indians ceded all tribal lands to the United States in return for payment of $840,000 over a period of 40 years, except a tract on the Iowa River which was to become the Omaha Reservation unless the Indians found it to be unsuitable. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs reported in a letter to the Secretary of the Interior on May 9, 1855, that the site did not meet the approval of the tribe, they refused to go there and had selected instead an area in the Blackbird Hills in Nebraska. The Secretary's reply to the Commissioner on May 11, 1855, gave approval of that location as their reservation.

Treaty of March 6, 1865 with the Omaha Indians ceded to the United States certain lands on this reservation for the Winnebago Tribe in return for payment of $50,000. Provision was made for the Winnebago lands in severalty on the reservation, in allotments from 40 to 160 acres. (17 Stat. 391, c. 436) (Article IV of this treaty is the first official pronouncement of the existence of the Omaha Reservation.)

Act of June 10, 1872 authorized sale of 50,000 acres in the western portion of the reservation. The tribe approved, however, the land was not sold and the act was superseded by that of August 7, 1882. (17 Stat. 391, c. 436)

Act of June 22, 1874 appropriated funds for purchase of an additional 12,347 acres of land from the Omaha Indians for the Winnebago Tribe, amount paid to the Omahas to be applied for their use under direction of the Secretary. (18 Stat. 170, c. 389)

Act of August 7, 1882, amended August 2, 1886, May 15, 1888, Aug. 19, 1890, and August 11, 1894, authorized the sale of part of the reservation, with the consent of the Indians, proceeds from sale to be deposited in the U.S. Treasury to the credit of the Indians, at 5% interest and the income annually expended for the benefit of the Indians, under the direction of the Secretary. This act authorized allotments from one-sixteenth to one-fourth of a section in lieu of allotments under the Treaty of March 6, 1865, above. Patents were to be issued subject to trust for 25 years and then lands were to be

conveyed in fee. After allotments were made, the residue of lands was to be patented to the tribe subject to a 25-year trust and then conveyed to the tribe in fee simple, except that allotments in severalty were to be made on such lands to children born during the trust period. (22 Stat. 3410-343, c. 434; 24 Stat. 214, c. 844; 25 Stat. 150-151, c. 255; 26 Stat. 329, c. 803; 28 Stat. 276-277, c. 255)

Act of March 3, 1885 authorized sale of additional lands. (23 Stat. 370, c. 341)

Act of May 15, 1888 authorized the payment of the last seven annuities under the Treaty of March 16, 1854, above, per capita, in two installments of $35,000 each. (25 Stat. 150, c. 255)

Act of March 3, 1893 authorized allotments to Indian women and any child born since allotments were made under the Act of August 7, 1882, above, and increased allotments of one-sixteenth of a section to one-eighth of a section. (27 Stat. 630-631, c. 209)

Act of August 27, 1894 authorized the issuance of a patent to the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions to certain lands on the reservation. (28 Stat. 507-508, c. 346)

Act of May 27, 1902 authorized the Secretary to make a per capita payment to the Omahas out of $100,000 from the principal to their credit in the U.S. Treasury. (32 Stat. 267, c. 888)

Act of April 21, 1904, amended June 21, 1906, authorized the Secretary to make per capita payments of all funds to the credit of the Omahas, except enough to yield sufficient income to support schools, etc. Shares of minors and incompetents were to be held in the U.S. Treasury or paid to parents or guardians. (33 Stat. 201, c. 1402; 34 Stat. 356, c. 3504)

Act of February 18, 1909 authorized the Secretary to pay drainage assessments on tribal lands of Omaha Indians. The Secretary was authorized to retain part of per capita payments for such assessments. The Secretary was also authorized to issue patents in fee simple to Omaha Indians for lands allotted to them within drainage districts, which patents would operate to remove restrictions. (35 Stat. 628-629, c. 145)

Act of May 6, 1910 authorized the taxation of lands of members of the Omaha Tribe held under trust patents of allotments issued prior to 1885. (36 Stat. 348, c. 202)

Act of June 22, 1910 authorized the Omaha Indians to submit claims to the Court of Claims, under the Treaty of March 16, 1854, above, etc., and an Act of February 9, 1925 authorized an appropriation of $374,465 interest at 5% on principal sums found due the Omaha

Indians under the Treaty of 1854, by decision of the Court of Claims, said amount to be distributed pro rata to members of the tribe. (36 Stat. 580-581, c. 313; 43 Stat. 820, c. 169)

Act of May 11, 1912, amended and superseded by Act of January 7, 1925, authorized the Secretary to sell surplus lands in the Omaha Reservation, to deposit the proceeds in the U.S. Treasury at 5% interest and to divide the proceeds pro rata among the children living on May 11, 1912 and who had not received allotments, but these provisions were not to become operative as long as it was necessary to maintain an agency and school on the reservation. (37 Stat. 111-112, c. 121; 43 Stat. 726-728, c. 34)

Act of May 18, 1916 authorized assessments upon allotment of certain Omaha Indians in Wakefield drainage district, Nebraska, and authorized the Secretary to pay same and be reimbursed from rentals for allotments. (39 Stat. 142, c. 125, 12)

Act of December 30, 1916 (known as the Stevens Act) made allotments of Omaha and Winnebago Indians in Nebraska held under trust patents issued in 1885 or later, on which the 25-year trust period had expired or had been extended, subject to State taxation. The Secretary was to pay the taxes out of funds under his control for those unable to pay. (39 Stat. 865, c. 10)

Executive Order 3111 of July 10, 1919, extended the trust period of allotments in this reservation for 10 years with 37 specified exceptions. Executive orders 4145 of January 28, 1925, 4548 of December 4, 1926, 5148 of July 3, 1929, and 5253 of December 31, 1929 extended the trust periods for 10 years each, but since the reservation is subject to the benefits of the Howard Wheeler Act, the trust period is extended indefinitely.

As originally established, the Omaha Reservation consisted of 300,000 acres more or less of tribal land. The above information innumerates the various actions which diminished the total reservation area and the Tribal land base -- for example, lands for the Winnebago Tribe and the allotment of lands to individuals in severalty. As of June 30, 1970, the Omaha Reservation consisted of 10,097.23 acres of tribal land and 17,316.24 acres of allotted land. 300 acres of the tribal land has been reserved for the needs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). There are no federally-owned lands administered by BIA.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Omaha Reservation is located primarily in the southern half of Thurston County (26,505.79 acres), with a few sections in adjacent Burt County (1032.91) and Cummings County (163.54 acres), all in northeastern Nebraska. It is an area about 11 miles north to south and 22 miles east to west, all within the First Congressional District.

Generally, the lands of the Omaha Reservation are found in the rolling to steep hill area above the flood plain of the Missouri River, but a sizeable portion of the tribal land is also in the river bottom area. Approximately 5,612 acres of the reservation (both allotted and tribal) are timbered with about 8,600,290 board feet of merchantable American elm and cottonwood. Timber sales of small tracts are being made. With the exception of a 700-acre tribal park, a 20-acre housing project, and a 40-acre cemetery, the 21,138 acres remaining are classified as agricultural land. This agricultural land is further subdivided into grazing land (about 1,250 acres scattered in small tracts) and crop land (about 19,888 acres). None of the agricultural land is under irrigation. Of the agricultural land, 1,979 acres are utilized by Indians and 19,159 ac. by non-Indians.

Nearly three-fourths of the reservation can best be described as "hill lands." Most of the steeper slopes are being farmed beyond their capability and are highly eroded. A greater return could be obtained from these lands if they were devoted to hardwood timber production. The more gentle slopes which are now being intensively farmed should be planted to grass and utilized for grazing purposes to provide a higher return. The bottom lands offer excellent potential for increased returns through the development of irrigation, which would permit the production of specialty crops such as onions, sugar beets, corn, grain sorghum, or soybeans. Selected use of both hill and bottom lands might also be profitable to a comprehensive program of livestock feeding to utilize locally-grown crops. Two of the largest livestock marketing centers in the nation are located within 70 miles of the Omaha Reservation. A grant application for a study on "Livestock Finishing" has been submitted to the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Of the 315 allotments on the Omaha Reservation still in a trust status, nearly 79% (251) are presently in an heirship status and the number is increasing daily. Moreover, the number of heirs per tract is increasing. The following statistics by number of owners give some indication of the problem:

Single owner	-	78 tracts
2 to 10 owners	-	156
Over 10 owners	-	82
Total	-	315

TRANSPORTATION

The reservation is served by two US highways - US 77 which passes through the mid-eastern portion of the reservation, and US 73E which passes through the extreme eastern portion, both traveling in a north to south direction. The extreme western portion of the reservation is served by State Highway 9. There are approximately 257 miles of section line roads on the reservation which have both gravel and earth surface. 30.4 miles of these roads are maintained by BIA and the remaining roads are maintained by either the county or townships. The Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad secondary mainline parallels US 77 through the reservation. Commercial air service is available at the Sioux City, Iowa, municipal airport, which is located 30 miles north of the reservation.

POPULATION AND MEMBERSHIP

At the present time (March 1971) approximately 1101 Indians reside on and near the reservation. This represents 245 families averaging 4.5 people per family, with an average age of 36 years. The Winnebago Agency records indicate that the reservation population has remained about the same for the past 20 to 30 years. There is a continual movement from the reservation, but these people are replaced by others who return due to unemployment and poor living conditions in the cities.

The Membership Roll of the Omaha Tribe was prepared pursuant to the Act of September 14, 1961 (75 Stat. 508). This act provided membership criteria different from the criteria set forth in the tribe's Constitution and Bylaws (a 1954 amendment to the Constitution). For example, Article II, "Membership," of the Constitution states:

> Section 1. The membership of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska shall consist of (a) all persons of Indian blood whose names appear, or are entitled to appear, on the official census roll of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska as of April 1, 1934, with the supplement thereto of January 1, 1935, and (b) all children who were born prior to the date Amendment I was approved and whose mother or father was a member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, and all children possessing at least one-half degree Omaha Indian blood who are born after the date Amendment I was approved and whose father is a member of the tribe, or, if living, would be entitled to membership.
>
> Section 2. The Tribal Council shall have power to enact ordnances, subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior, governing future membership, including adoption and the loss of membership.
>
> Section 3. Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to deprive any Omaha Indian of any vested property right.

INCOME

Wage income to members of the Omaha Tribe is substantially below that needed to maintain their families. The 1970 average family income was $2420, with an average per capita income of $537. Welfare income to needy families supplements these figures.

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

The Omahas accepted the Indian Reorganization Act, and a Constitution and Bylaws of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska was ratified on February 15, 1936. Approval to the Constitution and Bylaws was given on March 30, 1936. The constitutional membership provisions were amended on July 9, 1954. A corporate charter was ratified on August 22, 1936.

The governing body of the tribe is the Tribal Council. The Council is composed of seven representatives elected at large for three-year terms by the resident members of the tribe. Once elected, the Council elects from its own membership a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer. These procedures were established in the Constitution approved in 1936 and work satisfactorily. The Tribal Council also exercises all corporate powers under the charter.

TRIBAL PROGRAMS

Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO)

The Tribe has been cooperating with the Golden Rod Hills Community Action Council, which is a five-county Community Action Program agency. They conduct a full OEO program on the Omaha Reservation, which involves Headstart, Neighborhood Youth Corps, Operation Mainstream, Outreach, and Community Center.

Public Housing

The local Tribal Housing Authority has a total of 65 units of low-rent housing under management, of which 30 units are five years old and 35 units have just recently been completed.

Industrial Development

In 1967 the Omaha Tribe cooperated with the Walthill Industrial Development Corporation to establish a hydraulic cylinder plant in Walthill, Nebraska. This cooperative effort involved financing from the Tribe, SBA, Walthill, and Prince Manufacturing Company of Sioux City, Iowa. The plant provides job opportunities for 50 people.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

The Omaha Reservation has excellent potential for commercial and industrial development. Distinct advantages are the two US highways (73E and 77), a secondary mainline railroad of the CB&Q, two natural gas mainlines, a good supply of water, and an excellent municipal airport located in Sioux City, Iowa, only 30 miles distant. Three nearby metropolitan areas (Sioux City, Iowa, and Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska) would provide the population support for commercial reservation enterprises.

The Indian population is relatively small on the Omaha Reservation; however, combined with the population of the adjoining Winnebago Reservation, there are approximately 2,000 people. The labor force for the Omaha Reservation is as follows:

	Total	Male	Female
Available 16 years and over.....	863	446	417
Employed -- Permanent	60	38	22
Temporary	140	106	34
Total.....	200	144	56
Unemployed.....	425	208	217

The primary source of income for both the Indians and non-Indians either on or adjacent to the reservation has been and still is agriculture or agri-related businesses. The majority of the Indian people reside in or near the villages of Macy and Walthill, Nebraska. The people living adjacent to the villages reside on small acreages, with the majority of the Indian-owned land leased to non-Indian farmers.

HEALTH

The U.S. Public Health Service, Division of Indian Health maintains a 65-bed hospital at Winnebago, Nebraska, which serves the Winnebago and Omaha Reservations and other Indian groups. To provide complete services, the hospital staff consists of four physicians, 14 registered nurses, a pathologist, dentist, field health nurse, sanitarian, and others. Complete clinical outpatient service is available. Nearly all surgery is performed at Creighton University Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, about 70 miles distant. Overall, services available are adequate to meet the normal needs of the Omaha residents, and the facilities render better services than are found in most non-Indian communities of comparable size.

The Division of Indian Health staff ranks the major health problems of the Omaha residents as - first, alcoholism; second, accidents; and third, diabetes and its complications. The high accident rate and incidence of diabetes is related to alcoholism.

Almost all homes on the reservation have sanitary and domestic water facilities, depending upon the desires of the family. These facilities have only recently been made available under the Public Health Service program (P.L. 86-121). Under this program, 94 rural homes have been served; a few have a modern water and sewer system, while the remaining have only a sanitary privy and simple well.

WELFARE

The Indian residents of the Omaha Reservation receive welfare assistance from both the Thurston County Welfare Department and BIA. Categorical aid programs are administered by the county, and BIA administers a general assistance program. The following table shows the welfare assistance for fiscal year 1970:

	Persons	Amount
General assistance	166	$ 90,000
Child Welfare	2	2,100
Aid to Dependent Children	512	203,400
Other welfare	70	46,000
Total	750	$341,500

COMMODITY PROGRAM

Surplus commodities are distributed monthly on the Omaha Reservation by the county. In the past the Tribe bore this expense and responsibility. The county uses the tribal distribution facilities, but has the expense of transportation and accounting. Thurston County, which includes both the Omaha and Winnebago Reservations, is the only county in the state that distributes surplus commodities to families. All other counties in the state use the Food Stamp Program.

EDUCATION

The 1971 school age population of the Omaha residents is as follows:

Pre-school, ages 4-5.....	77
Elementary, ages 6-14.....	372
Secondary, ages 15-18.....	90
Post-secondary, ages 18-35.....	51

37 tribal members between the ages of 6-18 are not attending school, 23 male and 14 female. The problem of the school dropout is still a very serious problem on the Omaha Reservation. This could be due to the fact that there is no high school in the community and high school students have to be transported to Winnebago and Walthill or attend BIA boarding schools. Many of the students do not want to leave their home community.

The educational interest of the Indian people continues to increase. The school board members for the Macy Elementary School are Indian people from the local community. The Johnson-O'Malley funds are now administered by the Nebraska Indian Inter-Tribal Development Corporation.

June 1971

SANTEE SIOUX RESERVATION

Santee, Nebraska

HISTORY

The early history of the Indian bands now occupying the Santee Sioux Reservation includes several treaties and statutes which intended to establish a home for them initially in their native Minnesota. However, Presidential Executive Order of February 27, 1866, established the Santee Sioux Reservation in Nebraska by reserving from sale four townships consisting of 81,518.65 acres. Executive Orders of July 20, 1866, November 16, 1867, August 31, 1869, and December 31, 1873 further affected the reservation, causing total land acreage and other changes. By 1885, 853 allotments were made on the reservation to the Santee Indians, comprising 72,467.63 acres. All unallotted lands on the reservation were then restored to the public domain (about 42,160 acres) by Executive Order of February 9, 1885. Indian ownership has steadily decreased over the years, and as of June 30, 1970, 5786 acres of Indian-owned land remains, of which 3599 acres are Tribal land and 2187 acres are allotted. There is no federally owned land on the reservation area administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

The Santee Sioux Reservation is located in the northeastern portion of Nebraska in north central Knox County. The original reservation covered an area 16 miles north to south by 12 miles east to west. Climate is relatively mild, with an average daily temperature of 47.1 degrees. Average yearly precipitation is 23.5 inches, with 56% of the yearly precipitation occurring in four months, May through August. A frost-free growing season lasts about 155 days. One state highway, No. 12, passes through the center of the reservation in an east to west direction. Other reservation roads are county and township roads, totaling approximately 182 miles, and are either gravel or earth surfaced. BIA maintains 0.8 mile of road which serves an Indian cemetery near the village of Santee. State Highway No. 84 parellels the south edge of the reservation boundary. Railroad services are available at Niobrara and Verdigre, Nebraska, located four miles west of the western boundary of the reservation, and at Bloomfield, Nebraska, located four miles east of the eastern boundary of the reservation. The nearest commercial airport is at Yankton, South Dakota, a distance of 30 miles.

The Santee Sioux Reservation consists of rolling to steep hills above the Missouri River. Most of the reservation land is being used to its highest and best capability which is grazing and dryland farming. One small tract of land is being irrigated and a few others have irrigation potential. Of the 3599 acres of Tribal land, 2084 acres (58%) are used for grazing and 1515 acres (42%) for cropland. All of the Tribal land is used exclusively by Indians. Of the 2187 acres of allotted land, 63% is used for grazing and 37% for cropland. Indians are using only 14% of the allotted land; the remainder is leased and used by non-Indians. Income from leased lands is as follows:

	Approved Lease	Lease Income
Tribal land.....	1241 ac.	$2242
Allotments.....	1690 ac.	$6050

(Bureau of Indian Affairs)

The Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska is organized and functions under a Constitution and Bylaws approved April 3, 1936, pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984). The Tribal Council consists of a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, treasurer, and twelve members. The officers are elected from the council membership for a one-year term. The major resource of the Tribe is its land. However, the Tribe does not have a land purchase program and therefore, there has been no increase in the land resource for the past 20 years. The land now held in Tribal ownership was acquired for the Tribe after acceptance by the Tribe of the Indian Reorganization Act. The Tribal Council has established and followed the policy of leasing the Tribal land to Santee Sioux Tribal members only.

There are 29 allotments on the Santee Reservation still in trust status, and of these, 27 (93%) are presently in heirship status. The following statistics by number of owners give some indication of the problem:

Two to ten owners.....	14	tracts
Over ten owners	13	tracts
	27	tracts in heirship status
Single ownership	2	tracts
	29	

The continuing fractionization of ownership of trust allotments makes it almost impossible for the owners to negotiate or agree on any leasing arrangements. The resulting increased fractionated ownership decreases the returns to the individual owners.

POPULATION

In July of 1967 the Santee Sioux Tribal Council began updating their membership roll and made a request for all eligible members to make application for enrollment. At present 2096 applications have been received. These applications indicate that 244 Indian people reside on the reservation, of which 132 are male and 112 female. 89 people are under 16 years of age; average age of the remaining 155 persons is 39 years. 56 families reside on the reservation, averaging 4.3 persons per family. The Tribe has not kept any accurate population or membership records for a number of years; however, the trend has been a gradual decline in the reservation population.

INCOME

The primary source of income of the members of the Santee Sioux Tribe is from agriculture or agri-business. Most of the Indian people live on small farms and earn additional income from part-time employment with larger farm operators. A few are employed by schools or as construction workers. Only 8 families of the 56 families on the reservation obtained 100% of their income from self-employment. Income of the members of the Tribe, however, is substantially below that needed

to properly maintain their families and therefore, most of the Indian people obtain their livelihood through a combination of welfare assistance and part-time employment. In 1970 the average earned income per Indian family was $1250. The average total income per family, which includes both earned and unearned (old age assistance, aid to blind, aid to families with dependent children, general assistance, pensions), was slightly over $3500. About 80% of the Indian families have incomes of less than $3000 per year from all sources.

TRIBAL PROGRAMS

Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO)

Headstart Program - The tribe has operated a Headstart summer pre-school program for several years in one of the rural schools near Santee, Nebraska.

Community Action Program - The tribe received an OEO Community Action Planning grant in the spring of 1971 and is developing a Reservation Community Action Program.

Public Housing

The Tribal Housing Authority has 36 units of housing under construction and is planning additional housing units.

Industrial Development

The Tribal Council is extremely interested in the development of job opportunities on the reservation. The reservation has a good potential for recreational development since it is located adjacent to Lewis and Clark Lake, the reservoir of Gavin's Point Dam on the Missouri River.

Two local residents have used BIA Indian Business Development funds to establish small businesses.

Community Health

The tribe has a contract with the Indian Public Health Service to provide community health guidance on the reservation. There are two local members employed in this program.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND POTENTIAL

The reservation is at a disadvantage relative to the development of industrial and commercial enterprises due to lack of railroads, U.S. highways, organized villages with proper water and sewer facilities, commercial airports, natural gas lines, and good water supplies. In addition, the Indian population of the reservation is small and therefore the available labor force of Indians is insufficient to attract major industry. The neighboring towns of Niobrara, Verdigre, and Bloomfield, however, offer industrial development opportunities.

Available Labor Force	Total	Male	Female
Total 16 years and older	78	63	15
Employed -- Permanent	10	8	2
Temporary	29	27	2
Total.....	39	35	4
Unemployed	39	28	11

HEALTH

The U. S. Public Health Service (PHS) offers assistance to the Santee Sioux by operating a weekly health clinic in Niobrara, Nebraska. This clinic is serviced by the doctors and nurses from the Wagner, South Dakota, Indian PHS hospital. Indians requiring hospital care receive services from the PHS hospital at Wagner. Emergency cases are handled by hospitals at Creighton, Nebraska or Yankton, South Dakota.

In 1963 PHS provided sanitary facilities to 45 Indian homes. Of these 45, 21 have pressure water systems and flush toilets. Three of the 21 have automatic hot water. Wells providing the water are adequate to meet the needs of each family. The remaining 26 Indian homes have a hand pump for their water supply and a privy. Most of the Indian homes are in poor condition and are below the standard of the surrounding community. Over 70% are of a frame structure and are suitable for remodeling to include modern water and sewer facilities. The pressure water systems installed by PHS in 1963 are now beginning to fail and maintenance of them is creating a burden on meager Tribal funds.

WELFARE

The Indian residents of the Santee Sioux Reservation receive welfare assistance from both the Knox County Welfare Department and BIA. Categorical aid programs are administered by the county and BIA administers a general assistance program. The Santee Sioux Tribe does not operate any program which is considered of a welfare nature. The following table shows types and amount of assistance received in fiscal year 1970 by members of the Santee Sioux Tribe:

Category	Persons	Amount
BIA General Assistance	27	$ 10,400
Aid to Blind, Aged & Disabled	22	16,400
Aid to Families With Dependent Children....	109	42,700
Social Security	46	41,600
Total	204	$111,100

A Food Stamp Plan is now used on this reservation in lieu of commodities and is administered by the Knox County Welfare Department.

EDUCATION

The average educational level of the different age groups on the Santee Reservation is as follows:

Age Group	Grade Level Attained	
	Male	Female
18-24 years	11.6	9.9
25-44 years	8.5	9.4
45-64 years	6.5	8.7

The school age population of the Santee Sioux Reservation residents is as follows:

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
1-5 years	13	20	33
6-13 years	31	20	51
14-18 years	17	9	26
19-21 years	14	9	23
Total	75	58	133

BIA operates no educational facilities on the Santee Sioux Reservation. Indian children attend public schools. Recently most of the reservation schools have been consolidated with the Niobrara public school system. As a result, additions are being made to the school plant. Most children are transported to the school by bus. Niobrara is the only high school available for reservation students. The Niobrara high school and Santee grade school are assisted by Johnson-O'Malley funds administered through a BIA contract with the Nebraska Indian Inter-Tribal Development Corporation, and P.L. 874 funds. Indian enrollment and federal assistance is as follows:

School	Number of Indian Students	1970-71 School Year Johnson-O'Malley Funds
Niobrara (K-12)	100	$37,000
Santee (K-6)	20	10,000
Total	120	$47,000

The school dropout rate of the Santee Sioux students is about the same as the non-Indian children in the community. Only 4 of the 77 children between ages 6 and 18 are not attending school. Participation of Indian parents in school affairs is limited largely to special school events. Tribal members have been active with a Headstart Program for the past four years. There is no Adult Education Program in the local schools, but a full-time counseling service is available in the Niobrara public school through the Johnson-O'Malley contract. The National Teachers Corps established a unit at the Niobrara school beginning with the 1968-1969 school year and provides Federal Grand Aid and Adult Vocational Training services.

MAY 1971

WINNEBAGO INDIAN RESERVATION

Winnebago, Nebraska

HISTORY

The Winnebago Tribe has been moved by a series of treaty cessions from its historical home in the Green Bay area of the state of Wisconsin to its present location in northeastern Nebraska. In order to provide for the Winnebago Reservation in Nebraska, the Omaha Tribe sold the northern part of their reservation to the United States (Treaty of March 6, 1865; 14 Stat. 667), who then conferred title upon the Winnebago's by Treaty of March 8, 1865 (14 Stat. 671).

As originally established, the Winnebago Reservation consisted of 112,823.46 acres. Allotments were established on the reservation under two acts of Congress - the Act of February 21, 1863 (12 Stat. L658) and the Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. L388). The Indian ownership has steadily decreased since the date of the allotments, and today Tribal and allotted lands are highly checkerboarded with non-Indian ownership. At the present time there remains 28,059.14 acres of Indian-owned land, of which 2,889.34 acres are Tribal and 25,169.80 acres are allotted. 415.8 acres of Tribal land have been reserved for the needs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). There are 14.25 acres of Federally-owned land administered by BIA.

An Act of December 30, 1916, known as the Stevens Act, made allotments of Omaha and Winnebago Indians in Nebraska held under trust patents issued in 1885 or later, on which 25-year trust period had expired or had been extended, subject to State taxation. The Secretary was to pay the taxes out of funds under his control for those unable to pay. (39 Stat. 865, c. 10)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Winnebago Reservation is located primarily in the northern half of Thurston County (27,331.00 acres), with a few sections in adjoining Dixon County (742.43 acres), all in northeastern Nebraska. It is an area about eight miles north to south and 25 miles east to west, all within the First Congressional District. The reservation lies within the sixth principal meridian with a relatively mild climate and an average temperature in July at 75.6 degrees and January at 19.2 degrees. The average precipitation ranges from 0.68 inches in January to 4.09 inches in June. The average annual growing season is 160 days. The greatest flow of the tourist traffic occurs between June 1st and September 1st each year.

Generally, the lands of the Winnebago Reservation are found in the rolling to steep hill area above the flood plain of the Missouri River. A sizeable portion of the Tribal land, however, is located in the river bottom lands. Approximately 6,128 acres of the reservation (both allotted and Tribal) is timbered with an allowable cut of about 747,000 board feet annually. There is a considerable amount of timber marketing activity at the present time. The remaining 21,945.43 acres of Indian lands are classified as agricultural. This agricultural land is further subdivided into grazing land (12% in scattered tracts) and cropland (66% dry land farming). None of the agricultural land is under irrigation. Only a small portion of the trust land is being used by Indians. 9% of the farm land, 3% of the grazing land, and 100% of the timber land is used by Indians. In addition, 31% of the Tribal farm land and 18% of the Tribal grazing land is being used by Indian residents.

Nearly three-fourths of the reservation is hill land. Most of the steeper slopes are being farmed beyond their capability and are highly eroded. A greater return could be obtained from these lands if used for hardwood timber production. The more gentle slopes which are now being intensively farmed should be planted to grass and used for grazing purposes to provide a higher return. The bottom lands offer an excellent potential for increased returns through the development of irrigation which would permit the production of special vegetable crops and others such as corn, grain sorghum, and soybeans. Selected use of the land as a comprehensive livestock feeding program would be profitable, since this would utilize locally-grown crops. The Winnebago Reservation is located close to Omaha, Nebraska, and Sioux City, Iowa, one of the largest livestock marketing centers in the nation.

Of the 445 allotments on the Winnebago Reservation still in trust status, nearly 92% (408) are presently in an heirship status and the number is increasing daily. The following statistics by number of owners give some indication of this problem:

Single owner - 7%
2 to 10 owners - 31%
Over 10 owners - 61%

TRANSPORTATION

The reservation is served by two US highways - US 77 which passes through the mid-eastern portion and US 73E which passes through the extreme eastern portion, both traveling in a north to south direction. The extreme western portion of the reservation is served by State highway 9. There are approximately 257 miles of section roads on the reservation which have both gravel and earth surface. 30.4 miles of these roads are maintained by BIA and the remaining roads are maintained by either the county or townships. The Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad secondary mainline parallels US Highway 77 through the reservation. Commercial air service is available at the Sioux City, Iowa, municipal airport which is located 30 miles north of the reservation.

POPULATION

The latest official membership roll of the Winnebago Tribe was made in 1934. This was not kept current in an accurate manner and therefore in August of 1964 the Tribal Council began updating the roll. As of February 1, 1971, there were 1,928 applications for enrollment in the Winnebago Tribe. 632 Indians reside on the reservation. These represent 211 Indian families averaging 3 people per family, with an average age of 25.5 years. The ages range from babies to 96 years and include 326 female and 306 male. Further, 245 Winnebago members reside adjoining the reservation in the neighboring towns; these represent 105 families, with an average age of 26 years. 144 are female and 101 are male.

The Winnebago Agency records indicate that the reservation population has remained about the same for the past 20 to 30 years. There is continual movement from the reservation, but these are replaced by others who are returning due to unemployment and poor living conditions in the cities.

INCOME

The income of the members of the Winnebago Tribe is substantially below the national average, and is less than what is needed to properly support their families. The majority of the reservation families obtain their income from temporary or seasonal employment in the adjoining towns or part-time work in agriculture. Approximately 68.5% of the families are assisted by some type of welfare program. The median family income of the reservation Indian is approximately $3,031 annually.

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska accepted the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act, and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska were ratified on February 29, 1936. Approval of the Constitution and Bylaws was given on April 3, 1936, by the Secretary of the Interior. A corporate charter was ratified on August 15, 1936. The Council is composed of nine members who are elected at large by secret ballot. Three members are elected each year. After each election, the Council elects from its own membership a chairman, vice chairman, and secretary. A treasurer is appointed either from within the Tribal Council or from the Tribal membership. These procedures were established in a constitutional amendment ratified February 25, 1963, and are presently working very well. The membership of the Tribal Council works very closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other government agencies. The Tribal Council is progressive in its thinking and with its limited financial income, is making very good progress in management capabilities.

TRIBAL PROGRAMS

Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO)

The Tribe has been cooperating with the Golden Rod Hills Community Action Council, which is a five-county Community Action Program (CAP) agency. They conduct a full OEO program on the Winnebago Reservation, which involves Headstart, Neighborhood Youth Corps, Operation Mainstream, Outreach, Community Center, and a program for the senior citizens. The Tribe plans to be a "Delegate Agency" in the future, which will place the total management responsibility of the Tribal programs with the Tribal Council. This will be another step forward for the Tribe in management of its own affairs.

Public Housing

The local Housing Authority has been allotted an additional 25 units of housing, to be under construction in the spring of 1971. This will make a total of 55 units available to the community.

Industrial Development

The 25-acre tract which the Tribe purchased for industry is now being developed, in conjunction with another 20 acres, to formulate an industrial park and commercial area. This project is being funded with assistance from the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The Tribe completed a 9,000 sq.ft. office building in October 1969 which has been leased to the General Services Administration (GSA) for BIA office space. This building was financed by a $200,000 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Public Facility Loan which will be retired by rental fees over a 25-year period. The Tribe has submitted an application to HUD for a 30,000 sq.ft. Community Center which will be financed with a Neighborhood Facilities Grant. Portions of this building will be leased to different organizations to cover operations and maintenance.

Community Health

In February 1969 the Tribal Council contracted a Community Health Service. Total 1969 budget for this service was $21,183 with a 5.7% increase for 1970. This program is involved with physical, mental and environmental health on the reservation.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

The Winnebago Reservation has excellent potential for commercial and industrial development. Distinct advantages are the two US highways (73E and 77), a secondary mainline railroad of the CB&Q, two natural gas mainlines, a good supply of water, and an excellent municipal airport located in Sioux City, Iowa, only 30 miles distant. Three nearby metropolitan areas (Sioux City, Iowa, and Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska) would provide the population support for commercial reservation enterprises.

The Indian population is relatively small on the Winnebago Reservation. However, combined with the population of the adjoining Omaha Reservation, there are approximately 2,000 people.

The labor force for the Winnebago Reservation is as follows:

	Total	Male	Female
Available 16 years and over.....	624	294	330
Employed -- Permanent	67	23	44
Temporary	97	59	38
Total.....	164	82	82
Unemployed.....	253	126	127

The primary source of income for both Indians and non-Indians either on or adjacent to the reservation has been and still is agriculture or agri-related businesses. The majority of the Indian people reside in or near the village of Winnebago, Nebraska. The people living adjacent to the village live on small acreages, with the balance of the land leased to non-Indian farmers. The basic economic resource of the Winnebago Reservation is its land totaling 28,073.39 acres, the majority of which is leased by non-Indians. The principal sources of income from the land are surface leasing for intensive farming which provides an annual return of $198,650 and timber sales which returns $11,777. Most of the income is from allotted land, and 75% of this lease income does not remain on the reservation but is paid to non-resident owners.

HEALTH

The U.S. Public Health Service, Division of Indian Health maintains a 65-bed hospital at Winnebago, Nebraska, which serves the Winnebago and Omaha Reservations and other Indian groups. To provide complete services, the hospital staff consists of four physicians, 14 registered nurses, a pathologist, dentist, field health nurse, sanitarian, and others. Complete clinical out-patient service is available. Nearly all surgery is performed at Creighton University Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, about 70 miles distant. Overall, services available are adequate to meet the normal needs of the Winnebago residents, and the facilities render better services than are found in most non-Indian communities of comparable size.

The Division of Indian Health staff ranks the major health problems of the Winnebago residents as - first, alcoholism; second, accidents; and third, diabetes and its complications. The high accident rate and incidence of diabetes is related to alcoholism.

Almost all homes on the reservation have sanitary and domestic water facilities, depending upon the desires of the family. These facilities have only recently been made available under the Public Health Service program (P.L. 86-121). Under this program, 58 rural homes have been served; 27 have a modern water and sewer system, while the remaining have only a sanitary privy and simple well.

WELFARE

The Indian residents of the Winnebago Reservation receive welfare assistance from both the Thurston County Welfare Department and BIA. Categorical aid programs are administered by the county, and BIA administers a general assistance program.

The following table shows the welfare assistance for fiscal year 1970:

	Persons	Amount
General Assistance	54	$ 15,000
Child Welfare	20	2,100
Aid to Dependent Children	130	76,700
Other Welfare	43	27,600
Total	247	$121,400

COMMODITY PROGRAM

Surplus commodities are distributed monthly on the Winnebago Reservation by the county. In the past the Tribe had this expense and responsibility. The county uses the Tribal distribution facilities, but has the expense of transportation and accounting. Thurston County, which includes both the Winnebago and Omaha reservations, is the only county in the state that distributes surplus commodities to families. All other counties in the state use the Food Stamp Program.

EDUCATION

The 1970 school age population of the Winnebago residents is as follows:

Pre-school, ages 4-5..... 71
Elementary, ages 6-14.....209
Secondary, ages 15-18..... 94
Post-secondary, ages 18-35..... 29

24 Tribal members between the ages of 6-18 are not attending school, 15 male and 9 female. The problem of the school drop-out is still a very serious one on the reservation; however, some progress is being made, which is evident in the fact that the drop-out rate in 1968 was 62% as compared to 32% in 1970. The public school has upgraded its staff from a part-time counselor to one full-time counselor. Indian enrollment of the Winnebago Public School has also increased from 65% in 1968 to 72.6% in 1970.

The eduational interest of the Indian people continues to increase. 89% of the parents attended an education conference held in the local school. In 1970 a Tribal Education Committee was formed in conjunction with the public school. Further, the Johnson O'Malley funds are now administered by the Nebraska Indian Inter-Tribal Development Corporation.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

For Period from January 2, through June 29, 1973

JANUARY: PREPARING FEDERAL RESOURCES FOR OMAHA ALCOHOLIC REHABILITATION CENTER.

MEETING WITH JOHN BUEHLMAN, DIRECTOR OF OMAHA REHABILITATION CENTER.

MEETING WITH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IN OMAHA ON LEGISLATION.

RESEARCH INDIAN BURIAL GROUNDS PROTECTION LAW.

ATTENDED DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAFF MEETING.

VISIT SANTEE-SIOUX TRIBAL RESERVATION IN KNOX COUNTY.

MEETING WITH DAN WEBSTER OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN PLANNING PROJECT OF VERMILLION, SOUTH DAKOTA.

ATTENDED A CONFERENCE ON INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

COMPILED INTELLIGENCE ON INDIAN AND CHICANO PROTEST IN WESTERN NEBRASKA.

MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER ON PROJECTED INDIAN LEGISLATION TO EXPAND THE INDIAN COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP.

SENSITIVITY LECTURE AT LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL FOR FACULTY.

INDIAN COMMISSION MEETING HELD TO INFORM PROGRESS IN LEGISLATURE.

ATTENDED INDIAN TASK FORCE MEETING IN KANSAS CITY OF REGION VII, FEDERAL REGIONAL COUNCIL.

VISITED OMAHA TRIBAL MEMBER WHO REQUESTED ADVICE REGARDING INDIAN LAND LEASE PROCEDURE.

VISITED THE GOLDENROD HILLS C.A.P. IN WALTHILL REGARDING PENDING PROGRAMS DEALING WITH INDIANS.

FEBRUARY: LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARING ON LB 37 THE INDIAN COMMISSION EXPANSION BILL, AND LB 131, THE REPEAL OF THE INDIAN BOUNTY ACT. THERE IS A STRONG INDICATION THAT THE REPEAL OF THE INDIAN BOUNTY ACT IS BEING STRONGLY RESISTED.

MEETING WITH EDITOR OF THE YORK NEWSPAPER ON NEBRASKA INDIANS.

RECEIVED A NEW AMBULANCE FROM THE NEBRASKA SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

DELIVERED AND DEDICATED THE AMBULANCE AT THE SANTEE-SIOUX RESERVATION.

MEETING IN OMAHA WITH THE UNITED INDIANS OF NEBRASKA.

INDIAN COMMISSION MEETING TO UPDATE INDIAN COMMUNITY ON LEGISLATION.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAFF MEETING.

MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D. C. WITH AGENCIES DEALING WITH INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MEETING IN GERING WITH WESTERN NEBRASKA INDIANS.

MARCH: LECTURE TO HONOR CLASS IN PHILOSOPHY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA IN LINCOLN.

MEETING WITH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IN LINCOLN REGARDING LB 127.

MEETING WITH INDIANS FROM CITY OF OMAHA--VISITED STATE AGENCIES.

MEETING WITH SANTEE-SIOUX TRIBAL COUNCIL--AMBULANCE CREW TRAINING.

TALKED TO DAWES JUNIOR SCHOOL ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MEETING WITH DR. BILL THOMPSON FROM DANA COLLEGE, BLAIR, REGARDING PLANS FOR A MEMORIAL MONUMENT FOR BLACK ELK AND DR. JOHN NEIHARDT.

ATTENDED WELFARE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING.

TALKED TO AN EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT EAST HIGH SCHOOL IN LINCOLN.

ATTENDED A MEETING AT SANTEE-SIOUX EDUCATIONAL MEETING ON JOHNSON-O'MALLEY PROGRAM.

MEETING IN SCOTTSBLUFF FOR INDIAN COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 22-23, 1973.

ATTENDED MEETING AT KEARNEY STATE COLLEGE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MEETING IN LINCOLN WITH AARON CAIN, FROM OMAHA INDIAN CENTER.

ATTENDED MEETING IN DALLAS, TEXAS ON REHABILITATION SERVICES TO MINORITIES.

APRIL: MEETING IN GOVERNOR EXON'S OFFICE WITH STATE SENATOR RICHARD MARVEL, AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, DR. D. B. VARNER, REGARDING TUITION WAIVER AND OTHER POSSIBLE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEBRASKA INDIAN STUDENTS.

MEETING WITH THE SANTEE-SIOUX TRIBAL COUNCIL--STATED MEETING.

TALKED TO STUDENTS AT OMAHA WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL--ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

ATTENDED INDIAN CULTURAL WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN.

NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION MEETING TO DISCUSS FUTURE ORGANIZATION AND COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES.

MEETING IN SCOTTSBLUFF, ALLIANCE, AND GORDON. LB 131 HEARING--ATTENDED BY LEE KILLS ENEMY.

MEETING IN LINCOLN WITH UNITED INDIANS OF NEBRASKA.

ATTENDED A CONFERENCE WITH PROJECT CONCERN REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF A FREE CLINIC IN WESTERN NEBRASKA SPONSORED BY PRIVATE FOUNDATION--NEBRASKA MEDICAL PEOPLE OPPOSED TO SUCH A CLINIC.

TALKED TO CHURCH OF CHRIST GROUP IN ARLINGTON, NEBRASKA, REGARDING INDIAN PROBLEMS.

LECTURED TO GRADUATE CLASS OF SOCIOLOGY MAJORS IN GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA.

MAY: TALKED TO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN FRIEND, NEBRASKA, ON INDIAN PROBLEMS.

TALKED TO TABITHA HOME, LUTHERAN RETIREMENT GROUP, ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

TALKED TO CHURCH WOMEN UNITED IN HASTINGS REGARDING INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MEETING WITH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IN LINCOLN.

MEETING WITH JUSTIN ORR, U. S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, REGION VII, KANSAS CITY.

MEETING WITH NEBRASKA INDIAN INTER-TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AT WINNEBAGO.

TALKED TO EAST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

TALKED TO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AT CRETE, NEBRASKA, ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

ATTENDED STATEWIDE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONFERENCE IN LINCOLN.

ATTENDED MEETING AT MACY REGARDING DEATH OF SMALL INDIAN GIRL.

ATTENDED MEETING AT WINNEBAGO REGARDING NEW INDIAN EDUCATION ACT -- REGION VII. May 18, 1973.

ATTENDED MEETING IN KANSAS CITY, REGION VII EDUCATION OFFICE REGARDING NEW INDIAN EDUCATION ACT.

MEETING IN LINCOLN WITH STEVE JANIS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION.

NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION MEETING HELD TO SUBMIT NAMES OF POTENTIAL COMMISSION MEMBERS.

ATTENDED AN INDIAN EDUCATION WORKSHOP AT HURON, SOUTH DAKOTA.

JUNE: LINCOLN OFFICE.
PREPARED REPORT FOR THE NATIONAL INDIAN LUTHERAN BOARD ON NEBRASKA INDIAN LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT.

SUNDAY 3RD, MEETING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA TEACHERS COLLEGE TO DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR NEW INDIAN EDUCATION ACT FUNDS.

MEETING IN OMAHA WITH MR. ART SPRINGER, REGARDING INDIAN PROBLEMS IN THAT CITY.

MEETING IN OMAHA WITH MR. FRANK LOVE REGARDING THE INDIAN CENTER'S APPLICATION FOR INDIAN EDUCATION FUNDS.

MEETING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA TEACHERS COLLEGE TO FINALIZE PROPOSAL FOR INDIAN EDUCATION FUNDS.

TRAVELED TO WASHINGTON, D. C. TO HANDCARRY PROPOSAL FOR FUNDS FROM THE NEW INDIAN EDUCATION ACT--H.E.W. OFFICE.

TALKED TO THE SOCIOLOGY TEACHERS AT BURKE HIGH SCHOOL, OMAHA.

INTERVIEWED MRS. JANET WALLEN, TO ASSIST HER IN GETTING EMPLOYMENT IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

SANTEE-SIOUX INDIAN TRIBE HELD THEIR ANNUAL POW WOW.

ATTENDED AND SPOKE TO THE INDIAN ALCOHOL WORKSHOP AT MACY.

MEETING OF THE NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION TO RECEIVE THE FINAL CALL FOR INDIAN COMMISSION MEMBERS CANDIDATES.

TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, D.C. TO ATTEND CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

TALKED TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IN SEWARD, REGARDING INDIAN AFFAIRS.

PARTICIPATED IN THE ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES IN TEACHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE LINCOLN INDIAN CENTER AND LINCOLN ACTION PROGRAM OFFICIALS REGARDING THE FUTURE OF THE INDIAN CENTER.

PARTICIPATED WITH AND TALKED TO SUPERINTENDENTS AND ADMINISTRATORS SEMINAR REGARDING MINORITY STUDENTS.

THE OBJECTIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION

The survival needs of all Nebraska Indians are pursued by the Nebraska Indian Commission whose membership includes members from the three established Indian Reservations, Metropolitan, and Off-Reservation areas including Western Nebraska. Since April of this year the Nebraska Indian Commission has a staff member, stationed in Western Nebraska, to organize the Indian Communities with charters and constitutions to enable these Communities to qualify for State and Federal programs. The Nebraska Indian Commission makes every effort to coordinate these efforts with the Tribal Chairmen, Executive Directors of Urban Indian Centers, and with the Federal, State, County and other related agencies. This communication and association is vital to these Indian Communities because their priority needs are identified in coordination with the existing resources.

The Nebraska Indian Commission is constantly updated on all available programs which might enhance the Indians status. It will be noted in the following pages where the Nebraska Indian Commission has been actively involved and has endorsed the promotion of survival programs as a total effort of Indians being involved in Indian Affairs.

ACTIVITIES

Preface

THE NEBRASKA INDIAN COMMISSION

The Nebraska Indian Commission works in close relationship with all Indians living in the State of Nebraska.

The Commission works with the special situations of the Off-Reservation Indians.

The Commission serves as a liason between the Indians and the resource people.

The Commission communicates with other State Indian Commissions across the Nation, including other Indian Organizations.

The Commission keeps the public informed of the State Indian Affairs.

The Commission is in direct communication with Tribal, County, State, Regional and Federal Agencies relating to Indian Affairs.

The Commission keeps the office of the Governor and the Legislative Body appraised of the Nebraska Indian Affairs.

WELFARE

OBJECTIVES:

To properly inform the Nebraska Indians of their rights to Public Assistance.

RESULTS:

Those Indians living on the Reservations are eligible for assistance if they qualify and are under an interim assistance program with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 90 days while the Indian files for assistance with the County and State. To assist the Indians on the State level, the State Department of Public Welfare has hired an Indian on its staff for Ethnic Minorities.

HOUSING

OBJECTIVES:

To assist the Nebraska Indians obtain suitable housing on the Reservation and Off-Reservation areas.

RESULTS:

There are only token housing projects on the three Indian Reservations, which includes home improvement program for interim housing repair and improvement.

There is a very obvious opposition to involve Indians in low cost housing projects in all communities in Nebraska and instead these federal housing projects go to non-Indians.

There is widespread discrimination against Indians in housing. Those places where Indians do live are sub-standard, unsafe and unsanitary, but these Indians pay unusually high rent.

Despite the existence of Housing Authorities and Housing Committees on all levels of communities and government, there is little or no effectiveness of their efforts.

EDUCATION

OBJECTIVES:

To survey the need of the Indians in Nebraska and to report these needs to the Tribal, State, and Federal Agencies including the University and other programs dealing with Indian Education.

RESULTS:

It would appear that a majority of the educational programs are geared to the established Indian Reservations including: The Johnson-O'Malley Program, Remedial Education, Special Tutorial Programs on some Reservations, Special Native Language and Cultural Classes, Manpower Training Programs, Special University and College Counseling Courses, Curriculum Development, and Talent-Search Scholarship Program sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education from Region VII, Kansas City. The Nebraska Indian Commission is currently negotiating with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Omaha to provide a tuition waiver for Indian Students and to provide other financial assistance.

A Community College Program has been established on the three Reservations.

New School facilities are under construction on all three Reservations using Federal Funds.

E M P L O Y M E N T

OBJECTIVES:

To properly inform the Indian Community of job opportunities from various sources including:

The State Merit System,
The State Roads Department,
The University ETV,
The University Personnel Office, and
Other Area and National Offices.

To promote pre-employment orientation,
To encourage job training,
To encourage remedial education,
To encourage adult basic education.

Utilize Indian Employment Representatives.

RESULTS:

Because of inadequate educational opportunities both on and off the Reservations, Indians do not enjoy employment opportunities because they do not possess the skills to be competitive.

Discrimination and exploitation has been practiced for many years in this State. Complaints to the Equal Opportunity Commission and the U.S. Labor Department will tend to change this situation.

As economic development emerges, the employment problems of the Indians will diminish.

LEGAL SERVICES

OBJECTIVES:

The Nebraska Indian Commission strives to promote open communication and cooperation between the three established Indian Reservations and other Indian Communities with the Office of the Governor, State Attorney, State Highway Patrol, State Crime Commission, State Game and Parks Commission, U. S. Attorney, U. S. Department of justice, State Civil Rights Commission, U. S. Civil Rights Commission, and Bureau of Indian Affairs, County and Community Officials.

To inform the above officials and agencies of the cultural differences which have often resulted in misunderstanding, such as treating an Indian charged with an alcohol-related charge as a crime while a non-Indian is treated for a disease.

The Civil Rights of the Nebraska Indians is greatly impaired. Of all of the federally-funded legal aid programs, none have helped the Indian in the Courts. There is in existence on the three Reservations an Indian Legal Assistance Program, and this is geared to the Reservation Indians only.

The National Indian Lutheran Board is assisting the Off-Reservation Indians with a Legal Assistance Program in identifying funds to provide for a professional staff to deal with these legal problems.

RESULTS:

Because of inequality in law enforcement and Courts, the Omaha Tribe at Macy sought and was granted retrocession authority which placed all major crimes under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

For the past two years, the Nebraska Indian Commission has vigorously sought the legislative repeal of the Indian Bounty Act in Thurston County where the Winnebago Indians are the apparent prime targets of the Thurston County Sheriff--who is reported to keep his jail full of Indians in order to collect $2.50 a day for each Indian that he has in jail.

This is a most discriminatory state law which has been on the book since 1957 and amounts to an attack upon the Winnebago Indians Civil Rights. At a legislative committee hearing early this spring, County officials from Thurston County reported that if the Indian Bounty Act were repealed, the County would be

bankrupt. The Nebraska Indian Commission requested the assistance of state offices regarding state tax permits, and sanitation permits because it was reported that the Sheriff had a concession stand in the jail area and selling food items to the prisoners. The state agencies did not cooperate in this request, nor did they show the courtesy of answering these communications from the Nebraska Indian Commi sion Office.

Several Indians have died in jails in Western Nebraska, including many who reported they were beaten unmercifully and that their Civil Rights were denied them.

It has been further reported that many Indian men and women are confined in the State Penal Institutions who have been imp isoned at the convenience of those communities who don't know how to deal with these problems and in most instances, those who do not want to deal with these Indians and their problems. The same is true for the young Indian boys and girls in state reformatories. Everyone of these cases should be reviewed and disposed of on their merit.

With the exception of the Omaha Indian Tribe at Macy, all other Indians are under Public Law 280, which is State-County jurisdiction.

MEDICAL - DENTAL

OBJECTIVES:

To assist all Indians of Nebraska to have medical and dental services through the coordinated resources of the Indian Public Health Service, University Medical Hospital, private clinics, private doctors, and any other medical facilities, including those military medical facilities in the area.

RESULTS:

There are limited medical and dental services through the Indian Public Health Service. Because of the existing shortage of Doctors and other Medical Specialists, all services are on an emergency basis. Most Doctors and other Medical Specialists were usually people who would not serve in the military and would then be assigned to the Public Health Service and practiced on Indians. After two years' service, they would leave. Since the abolishment of the Military Draft, there has been no source of medical professionals to serve the needs of the Indians. At best, the Medical Service was poor, because of limited budgets and indifferent medical people who had no concern for Indians.

Each Tribe has community Health representatives to provide training and first aid service, including transportation to Public Health Services.

The Nebraska Indian Commission has been negotiating for over two years with the officials of "Project Concern" which is a privately funded medical clinic organization headquartered in San Diego, California. This organization has functioned in Southeast Asia and on several Pacific Islands, bringing medical services to these native people and also trained these native people to perform some medical skills, and furnished professional personnel to facilitate the medical clinics. This same organization has begun medical clinics in New Mexico for the Navajo Indians and is working very well.

We have had some strong opposition against a medical clinic such as Project Concern, whereby the Medical Association was fearful they would lose business, which is absurd because most of these medical doctors and hospitals with few exceptions do not accept Indians as patients, and this has posed an extremely critical problem.

The Nebraska Indian Commission is working towards a comprehensive medical service plan with the University of Nebraska and military organizations.

E C O N O M I C D E V E L O P M E N T

OBJECTIVES:

The Nebraska Indian Commission has been working in close cooperation with the three Indian Reservations in pursuing the economic development of these tribal resources.

The Commission has cooperated with off-Reservation economic development to help provide an employment opportunity for these Indian Communities.

RESULTS:

All three Tribes, with the assistance of the Nebraska Indian Inter-Tribal Development Corporation, have provided industrial parks and training programs to offer a labor pool for its Tribal members.

Each Tribe has an economic development specialist to deal with this endeavor of tribal development.

Each Tribe has manpower and natural resources.

The future of economic development on the three Reservations is great.

SUMMARY

The Indian Commission is relatively new and the Indians of Nebraska are recognizing this State level voice to speak out for their priority needs and to be directly involved in their own affairs.

Unity is the watchword in the Indian world because without it, these survival needs will never come about. The Commission is functioning within the established system not because of weakness, but because of strength and professional capability to advocate for the needs of the Nebraska Indians through appropriate legislation, and by taking these priority needs to the proper state agencies, Federal Regional offices in Kansas City and in Washington, D. C. The Commission is in communication with Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D. C. along with the Nebraska Congressional Delegation including other interested persons.

The Nebraska Indian Commission is grateful for the interest and close cooperation of all people who have contributed time and counsel for the needs of the Nebraska Indians; especially the office of the Governor and members of the Nebraska Unicameral which legislated the existence of the Nebraska Indian Commission as a permanent State Agency to do things for Indians by Indians.